

# 2011-2012 Library Use: Present and Future

## Brief Summary

### PROBLEM:

Based on visual observation and examination of media center logs, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are not using the media center except during teacher-directed activities such as researching or exchanging books. To increase use of the media center by these students, the media specialist will develop programming aimed at the interests of these students.

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

1. How frequently are 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders using the media center?
2. Currently, what are the primary reasons 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders are using the media center?
3. What are the hobbies and nonacademic interests of these students?
4. Would students be interested in forming a student advisory team to help guide library programming?
5. *What types of activities would increase the numbers of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders accessing the media center?(added)*

### PROCESS

Students who take the Scholastic Reading Inventory at the end of their 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade English courses completed a survey. This survey, designed using Google forms, collected information about current library use and student interests. This data will help the media specialist develop programming and activities to increase use of the library by 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

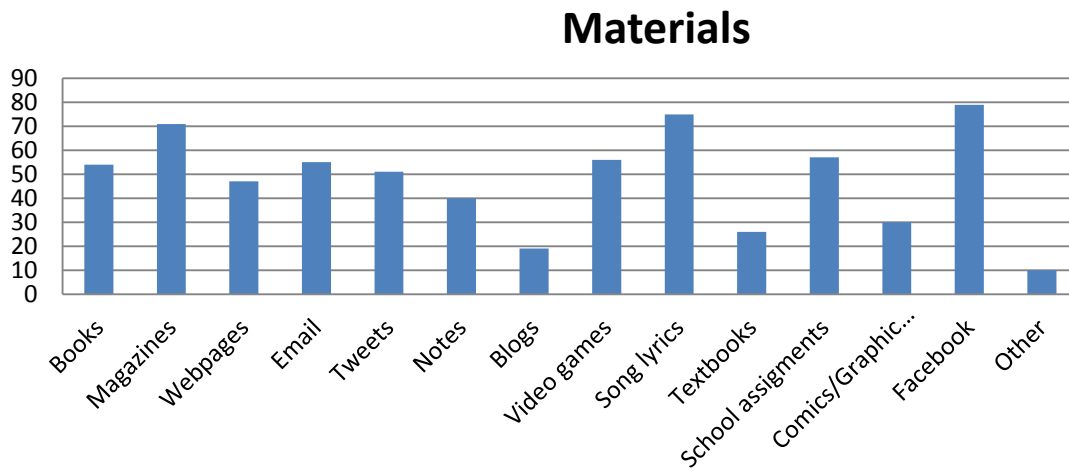
### DATA COLLECTED (Spring 2012)

Number of respondents and grade

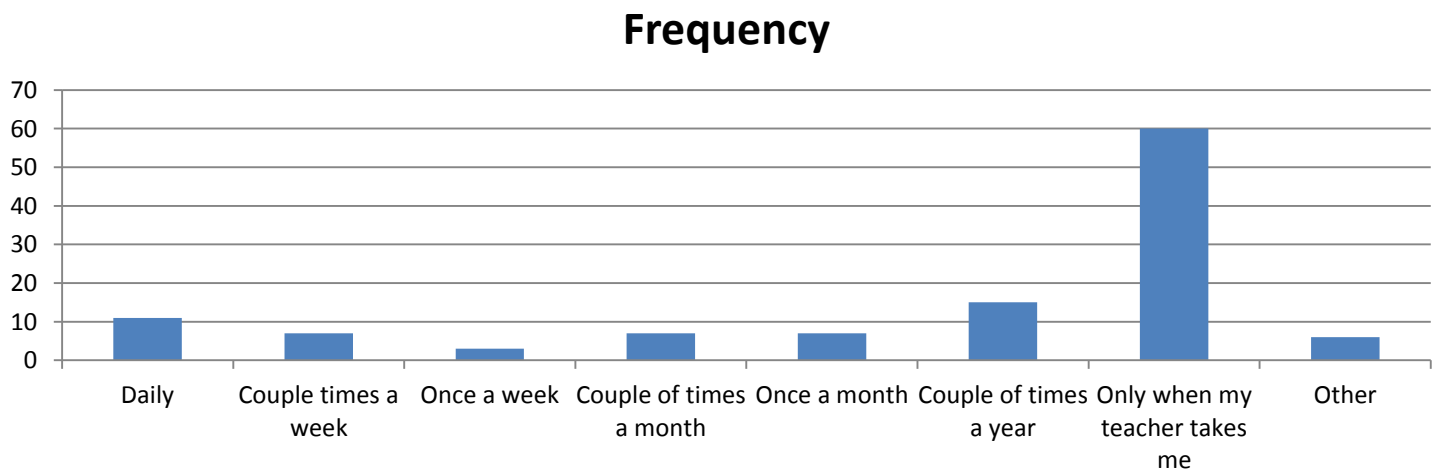
Grade	Number of respondents	Percentage
9	52	48%
10	55	50%
11	2	2%
TOTAL	109	

*The following charts represent actual number of students, not percentages.*

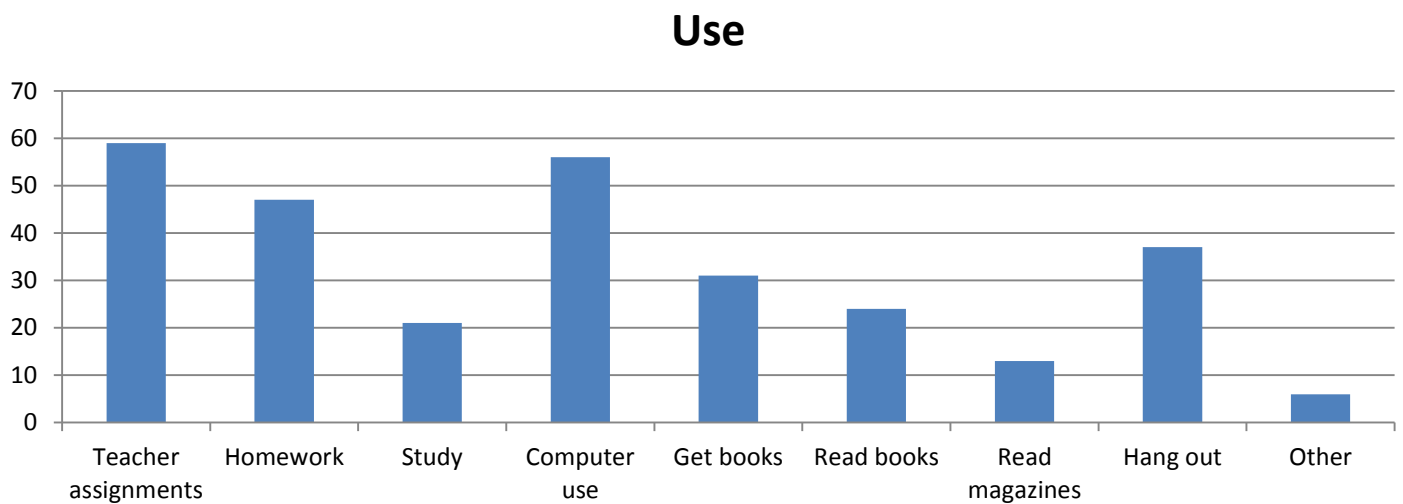
Types of materials read by respondents



Frequency of media center use

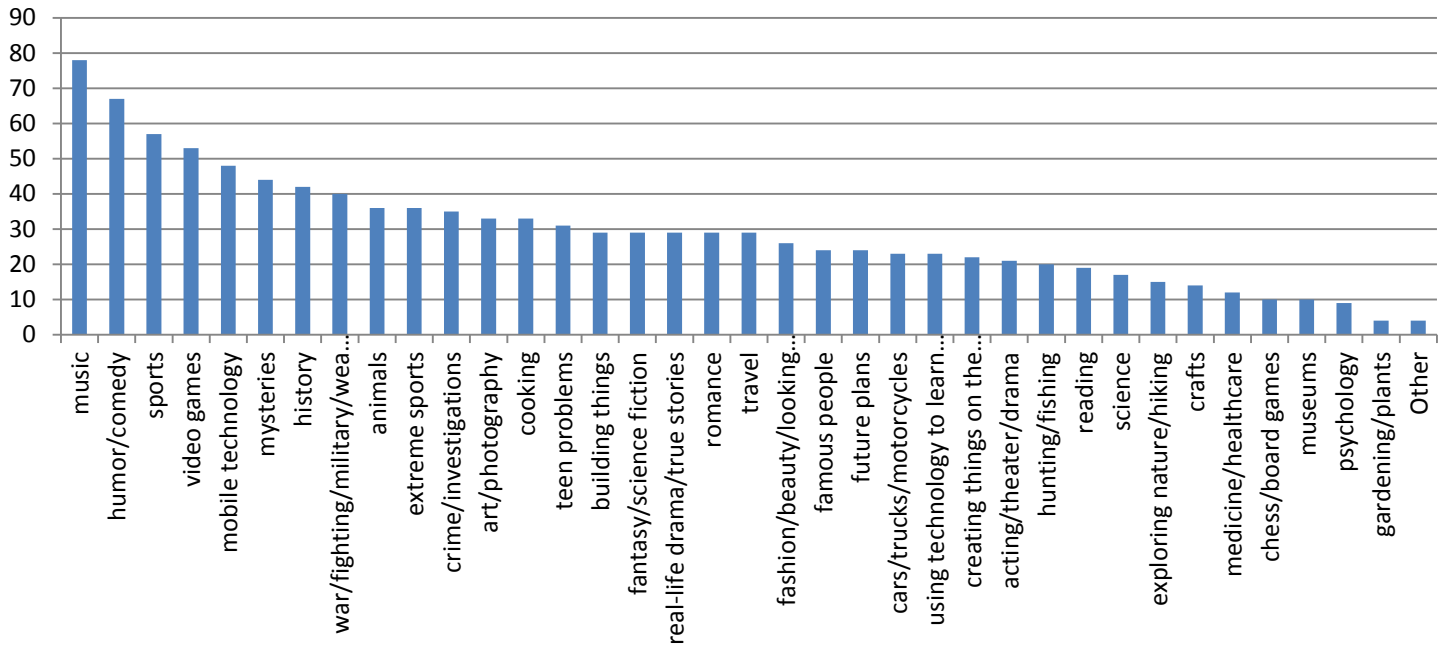


Type of use



## Selection of interesting topics

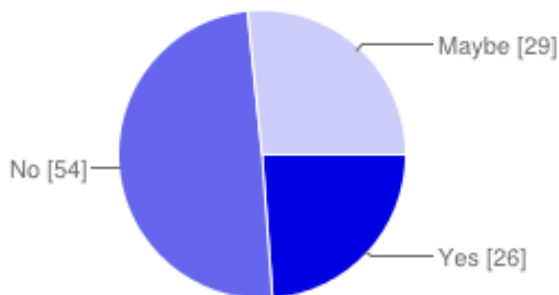
### Topics of Interest



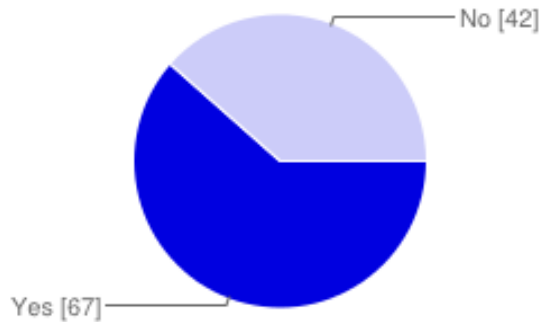
## Hobbies (student write-in)

- Working out
- Soccer
- Long boarding
- Football
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Running
- Biking
- Fishing/hunting
- Computer gaming
- Web designing
- Listening to my friends' problems and trying to help them out
- Drawing clothes and accessories
- Theater
- Writing scripts

## Interest in a student advisory group



## Smart phone owners



## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the data, the most students surveyed only use the library to complete teacher-directed activities, such as homework, projects and research. When they do visit the library for personal use, it is for socializing, using the computers or checking out books. Currently, there are no programs for teens to participate in that are not academically related, excluding the monthly book club. There is, however, an interest among those surveyed in helping develop programs by joining a student advisory group. The group could assist the media center staff in planning and publicizing events related to student interests. Sports and technology, along with music, mysteries/crime, history and art, were among the top rated interests. One uncertainty from the data is the number of boys responding versus girls. In the classes surveyed, there tended to be more boys, so additional data from different groups may be needed. It also may be necessary to add an additional question that specifically asks about the types of activities students may enjoy in the media center.

### ***Action plan:***

1. Solicit members for student advisory group and form group.
2. Develop mission and purpose. Review data. Collect more data, if necessary.
3. Research other library events. Examine examples of other library programming and activities.
4. Brainstorm events and begin planning process. Create calendar and task lists.
5. Seek approval from administration, if necessary.
6. Market and publicize.
7. Seek participant feedback.
8. Analyze what success and failure. Revise. Plan for next event.